2: Gamble S-5 (1926-1933)1954 AF12 North China AF12

Other Industries

The equipment for making sesamum seed oil cost some $22.10, a stone mill $14.00, two big iron pots $1.50, an oil pot $4.00, a big willow basket $1.00, two willow twig scoops $1.00, and a long handled gourd dipper 60 cents. One tou of sesame seed made from 6.5 to 7.0 catties of oil, worth 30 cents a catty in 1931. The oil cake was used for fertilizer and was worth $4.50 per 100 catties.

Pig bristle sorting was the second largest home industry, with an estimated annual output of some $760,000 and a gain of $95,000. Unlike spinning and weaving, which were almost hsien wide, the bristle industry was concentrated in two villages near the southern border of the hsien, nearly 10 miles from the railroad. The work was carried on by 80 families and 445 workers. Most of the 90 men were engaged in the buying and selling. The women did most of the sorting. It was a business that required the use of considerable amounts of capital, for the bristles were purchased in Shantung, Honan, Shansi, and as far away as the Three Eastern Provinces, shipped to Ting Hsien for processing, and then sold to purchasers from Tientsin for export. Some of the families were able to provide the necessary capital. Others borrowed the needed funds from the money lenders.

The bristles were washed, combed, and sorted into three sizes, top quality with lengths of from five to seven inches, medium quality from three to four inches long and lowest grade from one to three inches long. The prices ranged from $1.00 to $6.00 per catty with the medium grade price about $2.00 per catty. The bristles too short for export were used locally to help make water baskets and buckets water tight, for bristle rope, or for fertilizer.

A worker ordinarily sorted some 20 catties per day. Some of the sorters were paid on a piece work basis which averaged about seven coppers, 1.75 cents, per catty or about 35 cents for a day's work. The estimated gain was some 24 cents per catty.

Mat weaving, the fourth largest home industry, with an output of $361,400, was not as concentrated as the bristle sorting but it was reported by only seven villages, five of which were in the 6th District. Seven hundred and seventy of the 1,012 families lived in one village (see Chapter IV). It, quite naturally, was the chief mat market of the hsien.

Mat weaving required almost no tools but did require considerable

2: Gamble S-5 (1926-1933) 1954 AF12 North China AF12

285 manual skill. The reeds, most of which came from outside Ting Hsien, were prepared for weaving by splitting, removing the bark, soaking in water, and pressing under a mill stone until flat. In winter time the weaving was done in a cellar in order to keep the reeds moist and soft. In the summer it was often done out under the trees. It was a moderately prosperous industry, for the estimated gain was $58 per worker per year. About 10 per cent of the families made it their year round occupation. For the others it was part time work, for they, like so many of the home industry families, were busy with farm work during the growing season.

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435
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TABLE 92. INDUSTRIAL SHOPS, FAMILIES, WORKERS, OUTPUT, PROFIT OR GAIN

		Workers		*Output*		*Profit or Gain*	
	Number	*Total*	*Average*	*Total*	*Per Shop*	*Amount*	*% of Output*
City shops	204	824	4.0	$ 730,910	$3,580	$ 216,150[3]	29.6
Village shops	1,578	7,506	4.8	2,975,480	1,880	285,290[3]	9.1
Home industry families	47,400[1]	90,429[2]	1.9	4,865,500	105	878,340[4]	18.0
	49,182[1]	98,759[2]		$8,571,890		$1,379,780	16.1

[1] Includes some duplication because of multiple industries and families and workers engaged in more than one industry.

[2] Males 25,077, females 73,682.

[3] After paying workers' wages.

[4] No wages paid workers.

4: Burgess E-4, 5 (1926-1927) 1928 AF12 North China AF12

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side is lacquered in red. Frequently designs of flowers or landscapes are added in gold or silver color. The boxes have the usual strong brass handles and locks.

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Masons—*Wa Tzo* (*Lu Pan Sheng Hui*) (Tile Workers or the Sacred Society of Lu Pan[1]).

Tile and brick layers who work with mortar, plaster or cement.

467* 285

Mat Tent Builders—*Peng Hang* (Mat Tent Guild).

A more expensive type of temporary covering for weddings and funerals than the cloth tents made by the awning makers is the temporary structure made of wooden poles tied together with rope and covered with ordinary Chinese matting. These structures are used not only for the ceremonies mentioned, but also for markets, stores, skating rinks, theatrical performances, and to keep the heat of the sun from courtyards of Chinese residences. The mats are made of reeds but are not manufactured in the stores.

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Painters—*Yu Hang* (Paint Guild).

This group includes both the ordinary house painters and those who do rough decorative work with oil paints.

Paper Hangers—*Ming Yi Piao Hu Hang Hui* (The Spirit World Clothes and Paper Pasters Guild Association).

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The principal occupation of the members of this guild is similar to that of the ordinary paper hangers in the West. They, however, not only paste the paper on walls and ceilings, but also on the windows. Before the introduction of glass from the West in comparatively recent times, paper was used instead of window glass. In addition, these workers manufacture the various

[1] *Cf.* p. 100.